

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 231134

63

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TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

INFO JCS PRIORITY

USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY

USDELMC PRIORITY

CINCUSAFE PRIORITY

CINCUSNAVEUR PRIORITY

DIRNSA PRIORITY

USDOCOSOUTH PRIORITY

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

SECDEF PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 231134

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, GR, US

SUBJECT: US-GREEK BASE NEGOTIATIONS: GREEK TRANSLATIONS

REF: (A) ATHENS 9683 (B) STATE 222564 (C) ATHENS 9382

(D) ATHENS 9379 (E) ATHENS 8406

1. IN REVIEWING GREEK TRANSLATION DIFFICULTIES REPORTED
REFTEL A, WE HAVE NOTED THAT INSERTION OF WORD "SERVICE"

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PAGE 02 STATE 231134

AT BEGINNING OF PARA 1, ARTICLE VII OF SOFA, AS PROPOSED

IN REFTELS C AND D AND OVERLOOKED IN REFTEL B, HAS EFFECT OF MODIFYING NOT ONLY "VEHICLES", WHICH WAS REASON GREEKS GAVE FOR CHANGE, BUT ALSO "VESSELS AND AIRCRAFT", WHICH IS UNACCEPTABLE SINCE IT WOULD EXCLUDE CHARTER VESSELS AND AIRCRAFT FROM SCOPE OF PARAGRAPH. ALSO, GREEK PROPOSALS FOR SOLVING THEIR TRANSLATION DIFFICULTIES WITH "FEES" AND "CHARGES" REPORTED PARA 2(C) REFTEL A ARE UNACCEPTABLE SINCE THEY HAVE SUBSTANTIVE EFFECT OF REOPENING "SERVICE CHARGE" ISSUE WE THOUGHT RESOLVED PER REFTELS B AND C.

2. IN VIEW OF ABOVE, EMBASSY SHOULD PROPOSE FOLLOWING REFORMULATION OF ENGLISH VERSION OF PARA 1, ARTICLE VII OF SOFA: "1. VESSELS AND AIRCRAFT OPERATED BY OR EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE UNITED STATES FORCES AND SERVICE VEHICLES OF SUCH FORCES SHALL BE FREE FROM TAXES, DUES, DUTIES, FEES AND

CHARGES, PROVIDED THAT EXEMPTION FROM CHARGES SHALL NOT EXTEND TO REIMBURSEMENTS FOR MATERIALS OR SPECIAL SERVICES RECEIVED."

3. IF GREEKS ACCEPT ENGLISH REFORMULATION QUOTED PARA 2 ABOVE, EMBASSY MAY ACCEPT GREEK TRANSLATION WHICH IS EQUIVALENT OF "VESSELS AND AIRCRAFT OF OR FUNCTIONING EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE UNITED STATES FORCES AND SERVICE VEHICLES OF SUCH FORCES ETC." GREEK TRANSLATION WHICH SUBSUMES "DUES" WITHIN "DUTIES" AS PROPOSED PARA 2(B) REFTEL A IS ALSO ACCEPTABLE. ROBINSON

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